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For Zion's Herald.

GLACIERS.

BY REV. J. H. JENNE.

Glacial action—Prof. Agassiz—Theory questioned—Another proposed.

MR. EDITOR.—Yourself and readers may regard my topic as most especially cool; but having, as I trust, obtained your winter outfit of coal and clothing, you ought not to be seriously incommoded by ideal frost. And has not winter its own peculiar charms? Has not my subject, besides, its intrinsic attractions been honored with treatment by more distinguished names, and received the highest adorments of literature?

The glacial theory has grown to great importance in modern times, to which result the extensive researches and scholarly labors of Prof. Agassiz have largely contributed. The earlier published studies on this subject were mostly limited to the few glaciers now extant, and which, except in very high latitudes, are found only on mountain slopes and above the line of permafrost.

**BRIDGE OF ANCIENT GLACIER FIELD.**  
Prof. Agassiz and others find the results of glacial existence and action on the earth's surface, over a large portion of the northern hemisphere from the polar regions southward, indicating the whole to have been, at some period, a vast ice-field whose altitude was as that of the mountains. The glacial field of modern study, compared with that of earlier speculation, is as the boundless snows of mid-winter to the occasional drift which yet lingers the 1st of May. According to the later theory, the glaciers extant are but the almost wasted relics of an universal ice-pat, and their local effects are the results of expiring energies which once wrested with continents, and rounded and rasped the world's rough ends.

THEORY UNSATISFACTORY.

The theory is, however, still in an unsatisfactory state. The signs of the past indicate, not only an ice period of ages of comparatively unbroken winter, but also ages of unbroken summer in the same region. Are these alternations to be repeated, or did Nature experiment, from broad extremes inward, until the mean of property was reached, henceforth to be observed? How difficult to conceive of physical nature, except as working in circles and reproducing her great phenomenal varieties and vicissitudes in measured periods. The idea of ages such boreal rigor, predated or followed by ages of tropical influence, for once only, of which the long past can furnish no duplicate, nor yet the coming future, shows Nature as capacious, and either as losing its capacity, or changing its reason, neither of which are we willing to concede. So far as I understand Prof. Agassiz to assign probable causes for the ice age and its glacial products, it would be more satisfactory if his scale of causative power were more general, and the working cause more harmoniously codified with the great working forces of nature. So grand a vicissitude ought, by nature's code, to be associated with other phenomena of equal grandeur, constituting a family group begotten of one common cause—the worthy sire of such cyclopic progeny.

GLACIAL ACTION—AUTHORITIES.

The glacial motion has become matter of general notice and wonder; but the cause assigned for it is liable to serious objection. Prof. Agassiz, writing in the *Atlantic Monthly* on this subject, gives the general conclusion of the most noted authorities, in connection with his own. The difference between him and them is slight. They find the cause wholly in gravity—in the weight of the mass. He concedes this to be the principal cause, but superadds another force, that of dilatation arising from the freezing of water filtered through the ice mass. The porosity of the mass, making filtration practicable, he ascribes to the peculiar process of glacial ice formation in passing from snow to ice. The writer of this article proposes to show, from reasons well nigh conclusive to himself, the utter inadequacy of either or both of these causes to the alleged effect, and also to present another theory with a better show of reason.

GLACIAL DESCRIPTION.

Glaciers are now found in mountain valleys, above the line of perpetual frost, on a plane inclined to the horizon from five to fifteen degrees, with respect to the larger ones; while the inclination of the smaller is, sometimes, to the extent of fifty degrees. They are spread out and adjusted latterly to the shape in which he took such a leading part, said "I was not headstrong then, but I was *heartstrong*, O very, very! I had read and studied everything on the subject I could lay hands on. We did not then say a word about wine; because we thought it was best, in this sudden onset, to attack that which was most prevalent and deadly, and that it was as much as would be safe to take hold of one such dragon by the horns, without tackling another; but in ourselves we were resolved to inhibit wine, and in our families we general- did."

FEARS—POLICY OF THE REFORM.

Some very prudent persons feared the results of such a movement. Of this number it is said that Rev. Dr. Dwight was one. While he appreciated the exigency and approval of their zeal, he apprehended that they might transcend the sanction of public sentiment; but, nevertheless, with a benignant smile, peculiarly his, he said, "If my young friends think it best to proceed, God forbid that I should oppose or hinder them, or withhold my suffrage." Dr. Beecher, subsequently referring to this action in which he took such a leading part, said, "I was not headstrong then, but I was *heartstrong*, O very, very! I had read and studied everything on the subject I could lay hands on. We did not then say a word about wine; because we thought it was best, in this sudden onset, to attack that which was most prevalent and deadly, and that it was as much as would be safe to take hold of one such dragon by the horns, without tackling another; but in ourselves we were resolved to inhibit wine, and in our families we general-

ly did."

FURTHER REPORTS IN CONNECTICUT.

BY REV. D. BEECHER.

The famous report of Dr. Beecher, presented in the previous paper, commanded itself instantaneously to the public mind. In many localities it was received with acclamation. It was sanctioned by the approbation, not only of the clergy, but also of civilians of every grade, governors, judges, lawyers, and politicians. It is said that a very perceptible reform followed, the first marked leading temperance reformation in the United States, beginning in 1812.

GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF CONN., 1813.

At the next meeting of the General Association, June 1813, further action was taken on this subject. The Committee of Correspondence on the subject of Temperance reported their action, and that some progress had been made in the work of reform—that "the recommendations of the General Association had been followed with apparent and salutary consequences,"—that "they had been cordially seconded by most of the District Associations, and ardent spirit had been almost uniformly excluded from all ecclesiastical meetings"—that ministers, to considerable extent, had preached upon the subject of intemperance, and in many cases, with manifest good effects—that the churches had generally approved of the design, and had their attention directed to other vines; that these efforts had greatly diminished the use of ardent spirits in social circles—that some had been arrested in the way to ruin, that the Legislature of the State had passed a law admirably calculated to promote the desires of the General Association, that men of the first character of different professions and denominations in the State, had formed a society for the promotion of this object, and that encouraging intelligence had reached them from other churches and States.

The Association requested the Treasurers of the State not to provide, in future, either ardent spirits or wine, at the customary public entertainments of the clergy, at the general election. They also voted a similar request to the President and Fellows of Yale College, that they should use their endeavors to prevent in future the provision of either ardent spirits or wine at the customary public entertainments at Commencement, "for the purpose of co-operating with the General Association in their exertions to discontinue the improper use of ardent spirits."

SUBSEQUENT PROGRESS AND A REACTION.

Through several succeeding years this subject continued to receive its due measure of attention from the General Association. The yearly reports on the state of religion and morals in the schools, churches, and other places of assembly contained frequent allusions to the gradual decrease of intemperance. There were many evidences that the public mind was arrayed against this great evil, and the movers in this enterprise were encouraged to yet greater undertakings. The Society for the Reformation of Morals continued its work. Their meetings were semi-annual, and attended with zeal. In a little more than one year after its formation, it had more than thirty auxiliaries in different parts of the State. In a letter from its secretary to the officers of the Massachusetts Temperance Society, in 1814, it is stated that the society and its branches "had a considerable influence in preventing the profligation of the Sabbath, and in discouraging the excessive use of ardent spirit."

"But the members of this society fell into the same error which had such an unfavorable influence on the temperance reformation in later days, viz., that of relying too exclusively upon the influence of the civil law, and hence a serious reaction was soon experienced in that State. A political revolution soon followed, and many of the barriers which had been erected were broken down."

Minutes of the General Association of Conn., 1813.

Faith has an eye to fear, and a heart to love until the stream is calmest when it nears the tide, And flowers are sweetest at the eventide, And birds most musical at close of day, And saints divinest when they pass away.

Morning is lovely, but a holler chime like a bell over ev'ry roof is ever ours; And life is glee—all things holy; Confine done—vict'ry won— Glad in white—crowned with light— Angel song shall stir its story.

AT THE LAST.

"Man youth unto his work and to his labor until the stream is calmest when it nears the tide, And flowers are sweetest at the eventide, And birds most musical at close of day, And saints divinest when they pass away.

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THE TWO BOOKS.

I have heard, or somewhere read, of a man, who, on being brought before a grave tribunal, nevertheless answered carelessly at first; but presently he heard the writing of some one recorded from his view. He suspected that his sayings were recorded; then he weighed his words and spoke deliberately; for he knew that what was written would remain, and might serve for his condemnation. We always stand in the presence of the Judge of the whole earth. Our trial is now even proceeding; and yet how careless! Our actions, our words, our thoughts, are all written down; yet so silently that the recording pen does not awaken us to consideration. More than this, all twice written. Once in God's book of remembrance, and once on the pages of memory; and these suffer no erasure. What is inscribed on them may indeed grow dim, and even illegible; but one day it shall be renovated and stand forth in clear characters.

FATH.

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HOPES.

Standing on the rock of faith; Trusting in the strength of truth; Looking on the things above; Hope is filled with joy and love.

CHARITY.

Morals, if ye would display Charity sincere and true, While his duty to man, Keep your love to God in view.

FOR ZION'S HERALD.

LETTER FROM CANADA.

MR. EDITOR.—The recent sets of the Canadian authorities in reference to raders, has given satisfaction to a mind of all lovers of justice, and has given them a feeling of triumph over the sympathies of secession who are still numerous in many places in the Province. Toronto has been one of the centers where they have congregated, and there they held a meeting to denounce the government. To their confusion, their object failed; and after several speeches against them, amongst which that of Mr. Moss deserves particular mention, the meeting carried a resolution supporting the government in its decisions.

The parliamentary discussions of the Confederation scheme continue, and inspire our people with patriotic enthusiasm of future national greatness. The prospects of being consigned to the tender mercies of the Romanists, however, have stirred the Lower Can-

adas Protestants to earnest efforts for Educational reform. A leading Montreal paper, which was the principal opponent of the Wesleyans in their late attempt to unite all the Upper Canadian Colleges under one University, thereby to raise the standard of learning, and to increase the efficiency of the colleges themselves, is now advocating a somewhat similar scheme for Lower Canada. The Romanists of the West are consequently endeavoring to obtain greater power than ever to counteract the Protestants of the East.

METHODISM.

For some time our Missionary Anniversaries have been occupying the attention of our church. Those of this year have possessed an importance exceeding any of former years. The aid which we have had from the English Society will cease with this year, as its own operations demand more than all its pecuniary resources. We will lose by this arrangement \$10,000, the amount received last year; and this, added to more than \$15,000 of debt, has made the appeals to Canadian generosity more earnest than usual. A powerful impetus has been given to mission by the speeches of Rev. Zachariah Taylor, D.D., who has refused enticing proposals from the British and Foreign Bible Society, in order to act as General Secretary of our Missions. He is now visiting all these, so as to ascertain which of them may be formed into self-sustaining circuits. This work is much needed, as there are places where missionary funds should not have been expended for many years past.

MUCH VALUABLE INFORMATION HAS BEEN COMMUNICATED

BY THOMAS WOOLEY.

In the month of February following (1815), Rev. Thomas Wooley commenced in the Panoplit, published in Boston, under the editorship of Jereah Evans, Esq., a series of six articles, "on the Causes, Progress, Effects, and Remedy of Intemperance in the United States." In the closing article he earnestly recommended that farmers and mechanics should cease to drink and provide ardent spirits for their workmen, to give an additional compensation, and also to furnish them with a generous supply of judicious and palatable drinks, and thus great progress would be made "towards banishing the fiery products of distilleries from the field and from the shop. This would be an incomparable part of the general reformation, as it would be of great benefit to the health of the nation."

(Concluded next week.)

LIFE.

God is good, for God did it—Life is good, for God made it; Sinners affect it as beauty; Faith triumphant makes it holy, Leaning on Father's hand, it is.

Life is hidden in a chamber Ever hidden in a strange room, Thoughts of feeling, sacred sorrow, Tossing like a troubled ocean; Faith serene, though dark and stormy.

Life is conflict, earnest, stern; Death is quiet, more than sleep; Life above them is Helper; Blessed voices cheer as on;

Heavenly lights forbid to falter, Angels shun each victory won.

Life is swift. The years go by; A small child, and then a man; Life is glee—all things holy; Confine done—vict'ry won— Glad in white—crowned with light— Angel song shall stir its story.

THE PRESS IS USED.

In the month of February following (1815), Rev. Hemian Humphrey commenced in the Panoplit, published in Boston, under the editorship of Jereah Evans, Esq., a series of six articles, "on the Causes, Progress, Effects, and Remedy of Intemperance in the United States." In the closing article he earnestly recommended that farmers and mechanics should cease to drink and provide ardent spirits for their workmen, to give an additional compensation, and also to furnish them with a generous supply of judicious and palatable drinks, and thus great progress would be made "towards banishing the fiery products of distilleries from the field and from the shop. This would be an incomparable part of the general reformation, as it would be of great benefit to the health of the nation."

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## Poetry.

THING OF GREATEST PRICE.

What is the thing of greatest price  
That the whole creation round?  
That which is lost in paradise,  
That which is found.

The soul of man, Jehovah's breath;  
What we lose beneath in strife;

Heaven stoops to give it back,

God's will be done.

Jesus to save it deigned to bear

The sins of all in one.

The Holy Spirit sealed that plan,  
And plighted the divine word,

To man the gift of man;

That price was paid for mine.

And this is treasure home below

In eastern vessels frail;

Can none its utmost value know?

Till strength and spirits fail?

Then let us hasten round the cross

Not by the soul's eternal loss;

But everlasting gain.

James Montgomery.

## Literary Notices.

AUTO-BIOGRAPHY AND CORRESPONDENCE, ETC., OF LYMAN BEECHER. D. D. Edited by Charles Beecher, with Illustrations. Vol. II. 12mo., pp. 587. New York: Harper &amp; Brothers; Boston: A. Williams &amp; Co.

The auto-biography of this is the concluding volume, is one of the most interesting and readable which has yet made its appearance. Dr. Beecher was an original genius, and by nature a great man. He came upon the stage at an important period, and took a prominent part in the practical, ecclesiastical and reformatory questions of his day. Here he is permitted to tell his own story in his peculiar way, which makes the book decidedly rich and racy. There is not a dull spot on any page where the old man is permitted to discourse. A man of infinite tact, through his nature and his life, which always thrived on him, and not unfrequently sparkled even when his theme is solemn. We thank God for such a man, for the work he accomplished, and for the book which will faithfully represent him to future generations. The auto-biography is a success, and itself will satisfy the reader better than any review which can be given of it.

WOODWARD'S COUNTRY HOME. By Geo. E. & F. W. Woodward. Architects: 12mo., pp. 166. Published by the same, in New York. For sale by A. Williams & Co.

The design of this book, with numerous cuts and drawings, is to show how to select a suitable location, and build a elegant and tasteful cottage for a home. With valuable instruction, it contains many useful practical suggestions.

THE TWO VOCATIONS: OR, the Sisters of Mercy at Home. A Tale by the author of the Schenck-Cotta Family. 16mo., pp. 336. Robert Carter & Brothers, New York; Gould & Lincoln, Boston.

The author presents before us two little girls who grow to womanhood, and then choose their vocations, and at last become sisters of mercy and handmaids of the Lord.

THE FISHERMAN'S CHILDREN; or, Sunbeams of Hortic. Rock Cove. 16mo., pp. 260. Published by the Mass. S. Society for Promoting Boarding Schools.

TRIAL OF JOHN Y. BEALE AS A Spy and Guerriller by a Military Commission. D. Appleton & Co. For sale by Crosby & Answorth, Boston.

This octavo pamphlet of 94 pages is a full and correct report of the trial of the noted rebel spy who was executed on Friday, Feb. 24, on Governor's Island, N. York.

THE AMERICAN UNION SPEAKER, containing Standard and Recent Selections in Prose and Poetry, etc. By John H. Baldwin, Superintendent of the Public Schools of Boston. 12mo., pp. 368. Boston: Taggard & Thompson.

This is a large collection of well selected pieces suited for recitation and declamation, in Common Schools, Academies, or Colleges—well introductory remarks on Elocution and explanatory notes. Dialogues and humorous specimens of Oratory are included.

THE SHERED KING: BY A. L. O. E., with Illustrations. 16mo., pp. 365. American Tract Society, 28 Cornhill, Boston.

The popular author who has been very successful in several other books, gives us in this "A Sick Minister's Lectures on the Shepherd of Bethlehem, and the Blessings that followed them." The Shepherd is David, who afterwards became King of Israel. To children it will prove a very interesting, instructive and useful book.

Some publishers have issued BESSIE LOVELL, another interesting book of 377 pages, and two small ones, for young children, entitled HOW TO BE A HERO, and JOHN FREEMAN AND HIS FAMILY—all good books, teaching practical truth and wisdom.

THE CULTURE OF THE OBSERVING FACULTIES IN THE Family and School; or, Things About Home and how to Improve them. By Brill-Saville, Translated by L. F. Smith. 16mo., pp. 360. New York: D. Appleton & Co.; Boston: Nichols & Noyes.

The author of this work is both a physician and philosopher, and treats of the "art of Dining on correct principles, consistent with easy digestion, the avoidance of corpulence and the cure of lameness," together with special remarks on the different subjects. Now, reader, isn't that the very book you have wanted to get hold of for a long time? Well, it has come at last. We belong to a large class of persons who have been much more troubled about "how to get the dinner" than "how to eat it." We cannot, therefore, pronounce upon the merits of the book, as it is subjects mostly outside of our experience.

## Memoirs.

## IN MEMORIAM.

Several months have elapsed since the Herald announced the decease of Dr. Asa Baker Snow, lately of Geneva, N. Y., but formerly physician in this city. His friends have reasonably expected an extended notice of his life and character in this long familiar journal. To supply what would have been better said by some more intimate friend, the writer ventures to offer this tribute of affection to his cherished memory.

Dr. Snow was born in the year 1809, at Vernon, in the then Province, now State, of Maine. His family, however, soon removed to Whitefield, N. H., where he lived till about fourteen years of age. Here he attended the district school, principally during the winter terms, and, as a suitable age, worked with his father upon the farm. Receiving a serious injury in one of his feet, he became totally unfit for this work; and this circumstance, blended with disinclination to a farmer's life, led him to determine on seeking, if possible, a suitable education for some other purpose. For this purpose he left his home, and went immediately to the academy at Wilbraham, Mass., where he was greatly encouraged in his efforts by Dr. Fisk, whom he dearly loved, and whose memory is tenderly cherished.

Well does the writer recollect his earnest purpose and efforts to prepare himself for some higher sphere of influence and reputation than would be likely to become his lot in the township of his home. At an early age, by his own heart-prompting, with scarcely anything more to serve his purpose than his industry and intelligence, he diligently pursued the course of study at that institution which has ever been thorough and liberal. While here the idea of a profession first entered his mind, and he fixed upon medicine as the one most congenial to his tastes and talents. The studies necessary to be pursued for this profession required his removal, and he accordingly chose to attend the course of medical lectures at New Haven.

During his stay at Wilbraham he was eagerly interested in the religious means there employed to promote spiritual growth, and was a member of the Methodist Church. But he was never a sad, morose, spiritless church member. On the contrary, he had a native buoyancy, a hilarity of soul, which was ever shining out of his glad eyes, ever inspiring his whole frame with joyous emotion. And his early and later struggles for getting on in life, he was always hopeful, confident, cheerful, and did not grow fretful against Providence and the world, as is apt to be the case with some in similar circumstances.

From New Haven he went to Fairfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., where, after pursuing a thorough

course of study, he was graduated with honor in connection with others, thus obtaining his diploma.

Dr. Snow came to Boston in the year 1832, and in 1834 was married to Miss Emily Church, of Glastonbury, Conn., who with six children survives him. For twenty years he was known and valued by many in this city, as a physician, a Christian, and an earnest friend. It required not a little energy and perseverance to establish himself in practice, and in the confidence and esteem of the community. He came with no prestige of renown in his profession, having but recently completed his course of preparatory study. He was a stranger to almost all even of the denomination with which he identified himself in the city. But he did not teach their favor and friendship, seeking success and popularity in more prosperous churches. But having chosen his denominational relationship in early youth, and having maintained a consistent Christian standing, his attachment strengthened with his years, and he felt honored in securing a favorable position in the esteem of his brethren. His fidelity to Christ, his devotion to his profession as a physician, his ready and active co-operation in the growing enterprises of his church and of the community, his sincere and ardent attachment to the dear friends whom he loved and valued, were not without due social, Christian and professional recompence.

Maintaining a reputable character and standing among his brethren of the faculty as a member of the State association of physicians, and being successful in his medical practice, he was enabled through severe struggles, to obtain enlarged and enlarging patronage. He was an active member of the Young Men's Methodist Missionary Society of Boston—an association which, in the earlier years of the missionary enterprise in our city, did much to stimulate the zeal, efficiency and liberality of the denominations in this city, and by its example to encourage similar and liberal in other portions of the church.

He was for a long time a highly useful member of the Boston Wesleyan Association, formed for the purpose of sustaining the publication of Zion's Herald. His connection with this Association was not merely nominal; active and responsible trusts devolved upon him, which he discharged with fidelity and care. Indeed in his various social and professional relations he was ever ready to take and perform his full share of labor and responsibility. He was for several years one of the stewards of the Bromfield St. Methodist Episcopal Church, and for three successive years a member of the Boston City Council; he was also for several years an efficient member of the Primary School Board of the city.

In 1852 he accepted an appointment as Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in the Genesee College at Lima, N. Y. Removing thither, he discharged faithfully and acceptably for two years the duties of Professor, till unfortunately his health deteriorated. He was an active member of the Young Men's Methodist Missionary Society of Boston—an association which, in the earlier years of the missionary enterprise in our city, did much to stimulate the zeal, efficiency and liberality of the denominations in this city, and by its example to encourage similar and liberal in other portions of the church.

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